

# THE MORNING NEWS

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Meanwhile you can enjoy

the delicious 3-course Thanksgiving special menu for only \$ 29,95 or just pick your meal from the a la carte menu prepared by the chef cooks.

Zissles is located at Palm Beach in Paseo Herencia, upstairs next to the Cinemas. They're open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Doors are open at 7 pm, entertainment starts at 7.30 pm. Admission fee for the entire night of entertainment is only \$ 35. Call Zissles at 586-3800 to make a reservation or sent an e-mail to info@zissles.com.

## IDEFRE offices closed today during morning hours

ORANJESTAD –IDEFRE announces to the general public that its offices situated at Certified Mega Mall - 2nd floor, and at Dr. Schaepmanstraat 52, San Nicolas, are closed this morning. This due to the fact that the staff and personnel will attend an informative lecture from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon.

The offices will be open again from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.

IDEFRE thanks everyone for their understanding with this situation, especially those who want to register for the 'Noordloop' of this Saturday.

## The Pension Fund Tourism Sector seminar received with great enthusiasm

The Pension Fund Tourism Sector Aruba offered an informative Pension Seminar on November 18th, 2011, at the Holiday Inn Sunspree, followed by a networking opportunity.

The afternoon featured a number of speakers, including Aruba Prime Minister Mike Eman, as well as Past President of the FTA, Anselmo Pontilius, tourism pioneer Harold Malmberg, Pension specialist Laurens H.M. Keesen and Jossy Laclé, the current President of the PFTSA Board.



Managing Director Sanaa Baroud welcomed guests on behalf of the PFTSA, stating that the pension fund is already 20 years old. Funded by visionaries and pioneers of the islands tourism industry it has grown over the years to 3,000 members. In her welcome notes she introduced board members, Jossy Laclé, Glenn Faro, Rudy Geerman, Nataly Wouters, Ton Kolman, Valerie Pietersz Camacho and Ann Brinkman, all members of the local business community and invited companies to join the straight forward and sensible plan offered by the PFTSA, a not-for-profit organization.

Chairman of the Board Jossy Laclé then explained that as part of the enlightened, social minded world, the Aruban government also believes that

older persons of the community have the unconditional right to income security, and old age pension, which is the most effective way to provide dignity to members of society as they age.

Laclé stated: "And we cannot deny that the world is aging fast. As stated by Global Action on Aging, a non-profit organization headquartered in NY and affiliated to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, developing nations increasingly face difficulties supporting their older population. In most developing countries, the elderly live at the bottom of the socio-economic strata. For the first time in history there will be more people over 60 than under 15.

By providing fair income to older persons, Laclé informed, the government can meet its obligation to protect the most vulnerable sector in our society. But that of course is not enough to provide for the elderly who often care for their grandchildren and other members of their extended family, buying food, supplies, paying utilities and providing clothes and school materials, he shared.

The Mandatory Pension law which will be coming into effect on January 1st, 2012, will enforce saving for old age with the participation of the employee and the employer, building a nest-egg of retirement savings together. "And



yes we have to do this," Laclé inspired, "not just because we care, but because we also care for the coming generations."

In the second half of his address he went on to describe the PFTSA, a non-profit entity, that was founded in 1992 as the initiative of the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association and the Federacion di Trahadornan di Aruba (FTA), as they both shared the same vision for the need to create a pension plan which would provide employees in the tourism industry with additional income after retirement on top of the general old age pension provided by the government.

PFTSA, he explained, safeguards the savings into a solid fund reporting to the Central Bank of Aruba on a monthly basis.

*Continued on page 3*

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## Romar Trading hosts an elegant Johnnie Walker tasting



**International Johnnie Walker Brand Ambassador Arturo Savage introduced the new Blue Label Johnnie Walker**

The world's bestselling blended Scotch whiskies of Johnnie Walker have a venerated and interesting history, and whether a fan of this particular spirit or not, the passion and eloquence of their International Brand Ambassador, Arturo Savage, provided a fascinating and educational evening for island media at Texas de Brazil Restaurant on Monday evening.

Romar Trading, exclusive distributor for Johnnie Walker on Aruba, hosted the event to allow Mr. Savage to explain the fine art of blended whisky,

as subtle and complex as a vintner's, to produce the distinctive characteristics of their individual labels. Originally known as Walker's Kilmar nock Whisky, the Johnnie Walker brand is a legacy left by John "Johnnie" Walker after he started to sell whisky in his grocer's shop in Ayrshire, Scotland in the mid 1800's.

Prior to 1865, it was actually illegal to sell blended

and introduced color branding, while changing the name to Johnnie Walker and adopting their famous logo, the striding man, which was a tribute to their grandfather.

Johnnie Walker Red was created to be an easily mixable whiskey, complemented by colas and club sodas, which help to bring out the nuances of grain and malt whiskies of which it is comprised. This young whiskey has vivid highlights of smoke and sweet, and is the most popular whiskey on Aruba and around the world.

Johnnie Walker Black is comprised of a mix of 40 whiskies, 5 grain and 35 single malts, of which not a single element is aged less than 12

years, some more. It is the best selling premium whiskey in the world. Aging in sherry wood casks produces the darker color and distinctive flavor.

Green Label is blended of only 4 of the very finest of single malts, drawn from "the 4 corners of Scotland;" this produces a lighter, fresher liquor

which is aged for at least 15 years.

Gold Label color matches its moniker, and conveys that taste of honey suggested by its rich hue. A blend of over 15 malts, it was derived from notes by Alexander II to create a commemorative blend to mark their centenary. Aged anywhere from 18 to 25 years, Mr. Savage explained this is best enjoyed after being left in the freezer for at least 24 hours, which produces a certain viscosity and brings out the nuances. Its sweetness makes it an excellence whisky



**Diamond Jubilee**



**Local Brand Ambassador Boufi Barbour gets a dram**

to serve with chocolate or a crème brulee.

*Continued on page 4*

# Thanksgiving Buffet

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## The Pension Fund Tourism Sector . . .

Continued on page 3

At present, Laclé clarified, there are more than 3,000 members in more than 40 prestigious local organizations that trust the PFTSA with their retirement funds, and the board does not take its responsibility lightly, as they are personally accountable for growing the investment portfolio steadily but conservatively and in so doing ensuring the solidity of the fund.

He made clear that PFTSA's clients are employed in the Tourism Sector of Aruba. And all payments of member com-

panies are based on the actual amount of employees per month, which results in a very accurate payment of pension contributions. He then went on to explain the simple and straight forward Pension Plan, including the option of partners' pension, and orphan pensions, to protect families against unforeseen tragedies. In case of a disability, he stated, the coverage awarded by the PFTSA represents 100% of the last contribution. As it stands, participants save a minimum of

6% towards their retirement divided equally among employee and employer while giving the employee the opportunity to save additional funds up to 9%.

Moreover, the employee may also make additional contributions of 2% retroactively and all contributions towards the Pension Fund are non taxable.

To join, Lacle described, the employer must become a PFTSA member, and participants should be over 18 years old, and must earn a minimum of

Awg 1,542.90 a month, according to the new pension law draft.

In July of every year the PFTSA provides members and participants with the annual Pension Benefit Statements and most importantly, mutations are worked out during the same month, making reports, and consequently company payments completely accurate.

The fund, Lacle said, prides itself for on-time payments, to all our participants, and all the administration is done in-house.

At the end of his presentation, Laclé explained that exactly because many agreed that the AOV government pension provides insufficient coverage at retirement, the PFTSA was instituted. Now this notion has been put into a law, and by means of the seminar the PFTSA is inviting entities in the tourism sector to join, as the organization is solid and transparent, with a clear and effective pension plan that is supervised by the Central Bank of Aruba.



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## Romar Trading hosts an elegant Johnnie Walker tasting

Continued from page 2



The Johnnie Walker line up

Considered the company's crowning glory, Blue Label is one of the most expensive whiskeys sold and is meant to be savored undiluted. It is produced in very limited batches, and in rare casks, which have proven they pro-

duce a beverage of remarkable qualities. 1 out of 10,000 casks will be selected to be used to produce Blue Label, which is sold in a silk-lined box and meant to be savored. For a limited time, Romar Trading is offering for sale a

special holder for this premium liquor, just in time for holiday gift giving for the whiskey aficionado who has everything.

The Texas de Brazil parade of rich Rodizio meats were the perfect pairing for



The Johnnie Walker Team

the Johnnie Walker line; guests were even treated to a sirloin steeped in their Black Label, which proved quite delicious, even if you are not a whiskey fan.

The company has also produced a number of special, limited editions, and the newest will be released in 2012. This "Diamond Jubilee" blend is bottled in Bacarat crystal decanters and marks the 60th anniversary of



Sniff and savor

the reign of Queen Elizabeth of England. Only 60 bottles will be produced, which will be sold during a private, invitation only event at £100,000 each. All profits got to the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QUEST), the charitable arm of the Royal Warrant Holders Association.

Contrary to the practice of "knocking back" a shot as so many do when consuming their whiskey, Mr. Savage proved Johnnie Walker was something to be sipped and savored, equal to any fine wine. The evening was a revelation for all involved.

by Rosalie Klein

## ISLAND HOPPING

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## Introducing the 2012 Mini Roadster

MINI is pushing ahead with the rigorous expansion of its model family. The latest addition to the range is the MINI Roadster, the sixth model in the brand's current line-up and the first open-top two-seater in its history. Cutting-edge, typically MINI interpretation of the compact, two-seater sports car concept with manually-opening soft-top roof; first premium car of its kind in the small car segment; unique package appealing to demanding target groups with a penchant for elegant sportiness, spontaneous open-top driving fun and irresistible design; inspiring handling fuelled by powerful engines and sophisticated chassis technology; unrivalled scope for individualisation.

- Faithful reproduction of the MINI design language within the proportions of a roadster; clear focus on two-seat design and open-air driving experience; sporting charisma, with short overhangs, powerful over-the-wheel stance and high waistline typical of MINI; unmistakable design features and hallmark details underline the car's brand identity.

- Three-box body structure with a strikingly stepped rear end; elegantly sweeping roadster look thanks to heavily raked A-pillars and a waistline rising up slightly along the length of the body towards the flat rear end; stands more than 20 millimetres lower than the MINI Convertible; manually operated soft-top roof with straightforward mechanism for spontaneous, rapid opening and closing.

- Full-blooded go-kart feeling and outstanding safety levels thanks to bespoke chassis set-up, low center of gravity, torsionally rigid body and optimised aerodynamic properties; Electric Power Steering and DSC (Dynamic Stability Control) as standard, DTC (Dynamic Traction Control) with EDLC



(Electronic Differential Lock Control) optional (standard in the MINI John Cooper Works Roadster); roll-over bars in polished stainless steel; active rear spoiler extends automatically at 80 km/h (50 mph); MINI John Cooper Works Roadster with standard John Cooper Works aerodynamic kit.

- Focused two-seater concept with stowage area behind the driver and passenger seats, through-loading system and 240-litre luggage area; wide-opening tailgate for comfortable loading; optional: wind protection insert between the roll-over bars.

- Latest-generation four-cylinder engines; most powerful petrol and diesel units in the MINI line-up; MINI TwinPower Turbo technology; MINI John Cooper Works Roadster with 155 kW/211 hp, MINI Cooper S Roadster with 135 kW/184 hp, MINI Cooper Roadster with 90 kW/122 hp, MINI Cooper SD Roadster with 105 kW/143 hp; exemplary efficiency thanks to MINIMALISM technology.

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**TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC**

## Diego Arria files complaint against President Chavez at The Hague

CARACAS -- A complaint on crimes against humanity filed on Monday before the International Criminal Court (ICC) at The Hague, the Netherlands, accuses Hugo Chávez and some of his top aides, rather than the Venezuelan government or him as President, said Diego Arria, a former Venezuelan Ambassador to the United Nations and a pre-candidate to opposition presidential primary elections.

"It is a complaint to defend the rights of thousands and thousands of victims of Hugo Chávez. This complaint is neither against the Venezuelan president's office as an institution nor against Chávez as Head of State. It is intended to determine the criminal and personal liability of Hugo Chávez and some of his top aides for crimes against humanity," he said.

Arria stressed that the complaint requires a prompt ruling, in order to prevent new crimes that are foreseeable in the light of Venezuelan circumstances. "I intend to prevent situations similar to those occurred in countries such as Ivory Coast when his President (Laurent Gbagbo) refused to step down."

"We are not accusing Hugo Chávez, because that pertains to the prosecutor and the International Criminal Court (ICC). We have come here to defend the rights of thousands and thousands of Venezuelan victims," the independent presidential hopeful said. He added that some of the crimes for which he produced evidence are "murder, forced displacement and violation of property."

Arria said, in an interview with private TV news network Globovisión, that the documents were prepared more than one year ago in order to report on a widespread government policy aimed at violating human rights.

The former Venezuelan ambassador to the UN said that he cannot disclose the names of those involved in specific complaints until the prosecutor determines that an investigation will be opened in fear of retaliation."

Arria expects a prompt ruling on the allegations he made. He said that the complaint will be examined by an ICC preliminary court, where prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo will decide whether or not to uphold the allegations.

## NGO releases new pictures of Brazil's isolated Amazon tribe

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - A non-governmental group yesterday released new pictures of an Indian tribe living in isolation in the Brazilian Amazon and warned that they are threatened by the return of illegal gold miners on their territory.

Survival International, a London-based group lobbying to protect tribal people, said it released new pictures of "an uncontacted Yanomami village in Brazil, 20 years after one of its crucial campaigns created the biggest forested indigenous territory in the world."

"These new pictures emphasize how important the territory is in protecting the Yanomami from goldminers who devastated the tribe in the



**Aerial picture released by the Hutukara Yanomami Association shows huts of the uncontacted Yanomami tribe**

1980s," it added in a statement.

Illegal goldmining camps continue to operate just 15 kilometers (nine miles) from uncontacted Yanomami, according to Survival.

Straddling the northern Brazilian states of Amazonas and Roraima, along the border with Venezuela, the Yanomami territory was officially created in 1992.

## Christmas US shoppers warned over dangerous toys

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Dangerous or toxic toys remain on sale in US stores as Americans gird for the approach of Christmas and the rush to stock up on presents for eager children, a US consumer group said yesterday.

In a report dubbed "Trouble in Toyland," commissioners told how they had found unacceptable levels of lead and phthalates, or chemicals, in 25 kinds of toys, as well as products which presented a significant choking hazard.

"While most toys are safe, our researchers still found toys on the shelves that pose choking hazards and other toys that contain hazardous levels of toxic chemicals including lead," Nasima Hossain, a spokeswoman from the US Public Interest Research Group, said in the report.

"Choking on small parts, small balls and balloons is still the leading cause of toy-related injury. Between 1990 and 2010 over 400 children died from toy-related injuries, but more

than half choked on small parts, balloons or balls," she added.

The issue was brought before US lawmakers with some people maintaining that powerful lobby groups are stopping Congress from going further and adopting even tougher laws to improve toy safety.

"It's sort of unconscionable and outrageous that the Congress is trying to attack some of the authority and the funding for the Consumer Product Safety Commission," said a father of a two-year-old girl.

The Consumer Product

Safety Commission (CPSC) welcomed the report, and acknowledged more work needed to be done.

"I believe that everyone -- consumers, industry and government -- is making progress on safety," said CPSC Commissioner Robert Adler. "But, we need to continue to have all hands on deck when it comes to promoting product safety, including consumers and industry, in addition to the CPSC."

Some 80 percent of the toys sold in the United States are imported, with most coming from China.



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## ICC formally drops Kadhafi case

THE HAGUE (AFP) - The International Criminal Court yesterday announced it was dropping the case against murdered Libyan leader Moamer Kadhafi for crimes against humanity after receiving his death certificate.

"The pre-trial chamber of the International Criminal Court decided to terminate the case against Moamer Mohammed Abu Minyar Kadhafi," the court said in a statement, adding that ICC prosecutors had asked judges to withdraw the arrest warrant against him.

The court said it received a confidential transmission of Kadhafi's death certificate on November 10.

Judges issued arrest warrants against Kadhafi, his son Seif al-Islam and his security chief Abdullah al-Senussi on June 27 for crimes against humanity, committed in trying to put down Libya's bloody revolt, sparked in mid-February.

The late Libyan strongman met an undignified end on October 20 when he was felled by a bullet to the head. The conflict in Libya ended three days later when the interim National Transitional Council announced the north African country's "total liberation".

Libya said yesterday during a visit by the ICC's chief prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo that it would not hand over Seif.

International Committee of the Red Cross representatives yesterday met Moamer Kadhafi's detained son Seif al-Islam in Libya and he appeared to be in good health, a spokesman said.

Two officials of the Geneva-based ICRC met with Seif for several hours in the town of Zintan, where he was captured on Saturday, spokesman Steven Anderson told AFP.

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## Occupy marchers from New York reach Washington

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Weary but determined Occupy Wall Street protesters strolled into Washington in the rain yesterday, completing a 13-day march from New York for a cause they said was far from over.

Carrying a US flag and an orange "people before profit" poster, they went directly to

both occupations that have taken root in the US capital since early October, before going on to the Capitol building.

"To be actually this close to DC is unbelievable," Mike Glazer, 26, an actor from Chicago who was among the original 20-odd marchers who set off November 9 from New York, told AFP just outside

Washington.

Stopping along the way at protest camps in Philadelphia and Baltimore, the "Occupy the Highway" march -- mostly along US Route One -- grew to about 50 participants who finally entered Washington in two groups.

They had been in Philadelphia when New York police

stormed the Occupy Wall Street encampment in lower Manhattan that had triggered nationwide protests against social inequality and corporate influence on US politics.

As his comrades enjoyed free coffee from the bohemian Busboys and Poets cafe in Hyattsville, Maryland, Glazer said he hoped the trek from

New York -- billed as "Occupy the Highway" -- would set an example.

"This was a sort of experiment, a kind of spearhead of something that I hope will be much longer marches," he told AFP. "We want marches to continue. We don't want our march to be, 'OK, that was the march and that's it,'" he said.



## Health & Living

# 'Used' pacemakers give Indians new lease of life



**Chandrikant Pawar, a 61-year-old patient at the Holy Family Hospital in Mumbai, India.**

- (AFP) - Chandrikant Pawar is lucky to be alive. In September, the Indian former textile mill worker was given an artificial pacemaker after his heart rate plunged to just 20 to 30 beats per minute.

On the face of it, his case was not unusual, with the use of pacemakers to correct abnormal heart rates now commonplace around the world. What was more unusual is that his pacemaker was "second-hand".

Instead of a new device, the 61-year-old from Mumbai was given a free reconditioned pacemaker that had been used previously by a patient in the United States and removed after their death.

"I feel much better now. There's no giddiness," said Pawar, who suffered three

years of blackouts due to his low pulse. "It's like a new life," he said.

The privately run Holy Family Hospital in Mumbai, where he was treated, has been receiving second-hand pacemakers from the United States for the past decade under an innovative scheme designed to help its poorest patients.

The doctor behind the initiative, Daniel Mascarenhas, has also provided other equipment, including coronary stents (tubes) and implantable defibrillators, which send electric shocks to correct abnormal heart rhythms.

All the devices have either been removed from patients or were unused but past their expiry dates, the Indian-born cardiologist, who practises in Pennsylvania, said.

"Some consultants play golf. I go to funeral homes," he said. "When I find a (pacemaker) device which has five years of life left, it's like finding bullion."

Mascarenhas and his colleague from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Bharat Kantharia, highlighted the scheme in an article in the American Journal of Cardiology in October.

Between 2004 and 2010, they said 53 permanent pace-

makers (PPMs) donated from US funeral homes were sterilised, reconditioned and used by the Holy Family Hospital.

Of those, 37 were implanted in new patients while 16 were given to those requiring replacement devices.

"No significant complications including infections or device failures" were found when patients were tracked, the doctors said, calling the procedure "safe and effective".

"Implantation of donated PPMs can not only save lives but also improve quality of life of needy patients."

The charitable scheme highlights the problems of access to quality healthcare in India, which is seeing spiralling rates of heart disease due to rapid lifestyle changes.

The booming economy has led to a buoyant private healthcare sector with world-class facilities and care, plus the development of a medical tourism industry enticing patients from around the world.

But the majority of India's 1.2 billion people are still forced to rely on a massively over-stretched, under-funded public health system with crumbling, dirty and overcrowded hospitals.

Low-income families often are forced to take loans to cover basic medical fees.



## Lunch Buffet

Saturday - Sunday  
12:00 - 3 p.m.

## Dinner

Monday - Sunday  
6:00 - 11:00 p.m

Palm Beach Center - Palm Beach Aruba - Tel: 5884494

## 'Thousands' hit by Djibouti diarrhoea outbreak



**Women in drought-hit Djibouti sit together while a man covered in a cloth rests in the foreground in August.**

- (AFP) Authorities in Djibouti have reported a serious outbreak of a potentially fatal diarrhoea infection in the capital, with two deaths since October and 127 new cases this month, the World Health Organization said on Tuesday.

The WHO said 5,000 cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) have already been reported this year compared to 2,000 in the Red Sea port in 2010.

Poor hygiene and sanitation along with recent rainfall in some areas had led to the contamination of already limited and unsafe water supplies, according to the UN health agency, which said the drought in the Horn of Africa had exacerbated the situation.

"The effects of the recurring drought on several parts of Djibouti and neighbouring countries have resulted in a malnourished, poorer and more vulnerable population," a WHO statement said.

The body is working with the Djibouti ministry of health to train health workers and set up treatment centres.

Last week the UN rights agency reported an outbreak of cholera among Somali refugees in Kenya's huge Dadaab refugee camp, with one death.

The WHO said on Tuesday that all five camps were affected by AWD but no cases had been reported in Kenya outside the camps.

AWD is rife in south central Somalia where more than 53,000 cases were reported this year, resulting in 795 deaths, the agency said.



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## Sci-Tech

# 'Little chance' of saving stranded Mars probe: Russia



**NASA said that the spacecraft is "anticipated to fall back to Earth in late December", with the exact time depending on "both the level of solar activity and the attitude/stability of the spacecraft".**

MOSCOW (AFP) - Russia's space agency admitted Tuesday there was little chance of saving a probe that aimed to bring back soil from Mars's largest moon but has been stranded in Earth orbit since launch.

Russia launched the Phobos-Grunt research probe to the Martian moon Phobos on November 9, in an attempt to reinvigorate its interplanetary programme which had not seen a successful mission since the fall of the Soviet Union.

However hours later the probe failed to depart the Earth's orbit and mission control lost radio contact with the craft.

"We need to be realists. Since we could not establish contact for so long, the chances to carry out this expedition right now are very slim," Davydov said, quoted by the ITAR-TASS and Interfax news agencies.

Roscosmos still does not know what exactly went wrong with its ambitious five-billion-ruble (\$165 million) probe, which was meant to scoop up soil on Phobos and bring it back to Earth by 2014.

"If we gain contact and understand what is happening with the probe, then maybe we will be able to draw conclusions. But now we have no information from the craft," Davydov said.

Russia's space officials admitted from the beginning that

the mission was a big risk as due to its complete lack of experience in the last two decades in successfully sending probes to the solar system.

However the launch was carried out to take advantage of the current position of the planet which means the distance between Earth and Mars is relatively short. The next such "window" will open up in two years, Davydov said.

The 13.5 tonne probe, out of control and carrying highly toxic fuel, could also crash into the earth, Roscosmos has

warned. However Davydov said it is impossible to predict the exact position of such an event.

"The crash area of any craft can only be estimated in the final 24 hours," he said. "Before then, saying what will fall and where is pointless."

Russia suffered several space failures over the past 12 months after three navigation satellites plunged into the ocean in December, followed by loss of satellites for military and digital television.

In August, a cargo ship bound for the International Space Station crashed in Siberia, leading to fears that ISS crew may have to be evacuated.

The space agency's long term plans now be clear once the probe is established a failure, and insurance payments are made out, Davydov said. It was insured for 1.2 billion roubles (\$40 million).

Davydov said that Russia may be better off in future sending probes to the Earth's moon and researching Mars in cooperation with its international partners.



**2012 could see Apple overtaking HP as the leading global computer manufacturer according to a new report. The findings, issued by research firm Canalys, illustrate just how much the computing landscape has changed with the advent of the iPad and the explosion of tablet sales over the past two years. Apple shot into second place in the worldwide PC market in Q3 2011, and global PC shipments are estimated to reach 415 million largely due to increased tablet sales, up 15% from 2010. Canalys also estimates that Q4 sales will be dominated by the iPad but that the Nook Tablet and Kindle Fire will have a major impact as well. The iPad 3, due out next year, will help propel Apple into the number one slot.**

## Amazon countries meet in Brazil to mull development

BRASILIA (AFP) - Eight South American countries were meeting in the heart of the Brazilian Amazon Tuesday to mull development and conservation plans for one of the planet's largest natural reserves.

Representatives of Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela gathered in Manaus to review agreements signed to protect the Amazon against the threats of deforestation and illegal trafficking in timber and minerals.

The eight Amazon countries, who in 1978 signed an Amazon Cooperation Treaty, were to discuss plans for a joint stance at next June's UN conference on sustainable development in Rio.

The Amazon, the world's largest tropical rainforest, is one of the world's largest reserves of fresh water.

A Brazilian diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the talks would focus on the Amazon Fund, a joint initiative launched in 2008 to combat deforestation and support conservation and sustainable development.

Other issues on the agenda are navigation rules on the Amazon river and a joint stance at next year's Rio conference.

The diplomat said Brazil, which has the largest tract of Amazon rainforest, was keen on "expediting the process to

implement the Amazon Fund."

Attending the Manaus meeting were Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Patriota and his counterparts Ricardo Patino of Ecuador, Suriname's Winston Lackin, Venezuela's Ricardo Maduro as well as representatives of other parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (OTCA).

The initiative has received donations of nearly \$58 million (42 million euros) over the past two years, well short of the initial target of one billion dollars.

It notably seeks to improve satellite tracking of forest deforestation and environmental plans in border areas.

Last year the Amazon lost 7,000 square kilometers (2,702 square miles), down from the historic peak of 2003-2004, when more than 27,700 square kilometers were deforested.

Officials say Amazon logging mainly results from fires, the advance of agriculture and cattle farming as well as illegal trafficking in timber and minerals.

Covering an area of seven million square kilometers, the Amazon is home to 40,000 plant species, millions of animal species and some 420 indigenous tribes, including 60 who live in total isolation.

According to OTCA, 38.7 million people live in the region, roughly 11 percent of the eight Amazon countries' population.



## COMICS



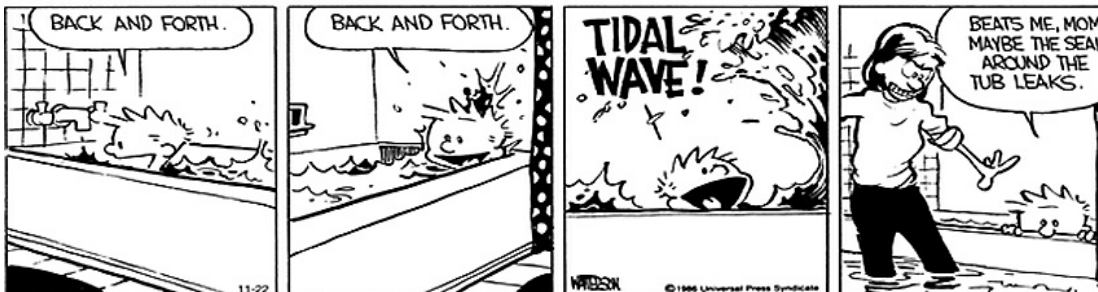
## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBS



## CROSSWORD



## CROSSWORD

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## A BOATLOAD OF FUN

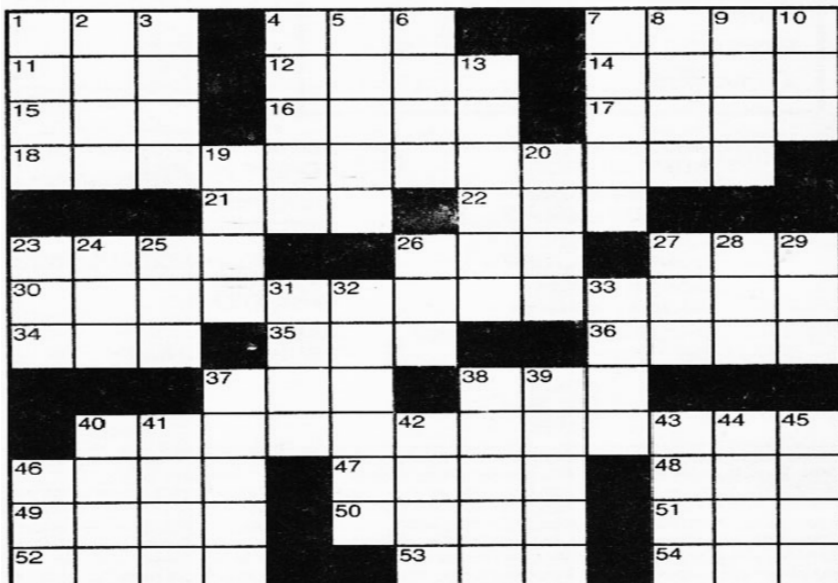
## ACROSS

1. Baseball \_\_\_\_
4. Photo, for short
7. High school class
11. Bullring cheer
12. Cry of woe
14. Become exhausted
15. "\_\_\_\_ Ballou"
16. Vegetarian's protein source
17. "\_\_\_\_ After" (1998 Barrymore film)
18. Well-balanced, as one's
21. Function
22. \_\_\_\_ Rio, Texas
23. Derive (from)
26. Oahu fare
27. Blockhead
30. Resent forever
34. Literary fragments
35. Large kettle
36. Author Uris
37. Between ready and go
38. Wok or skillet
40. Informal toast
46. Elis' school
47. Country road
48. Bemoan
49. Neighborhood
50. Volcano of Sicily

51. Japanese sash
52. Tie the \_\_\_\_ (get married)
53. Singing the blues
54. Stinky paving goo

## DOWN

1. Mlle. Chanel, to amis
2. Hale of "Gilligan's Island"
3. Anti-fur group: abbr.
4. Heads
5. Meaning of "amo"
6. Spot for espresso
7. Pittsburgh product
8. Buzzing place
9. Russian city
10. Via
13. Incomplete rainbow
19. Senseless
20. Actor Dullea
23. Doo-wop syllable
24. Summer shade
25. Important time
26. \_\_\_\_ on the back
27. High-minded poem
28. In the past
29. Bog
31. Pizzeria feature
32. Baby's toy
33. Wrist attachment
37. Brow beads
38. Erie's st.
39. In front
40. Mend a sock
41. Dairy case bargain
42. Trilby and toque
43. Move briskly
44. Home of the Mambo Kings
45. Beneficiary
46. Wild ox



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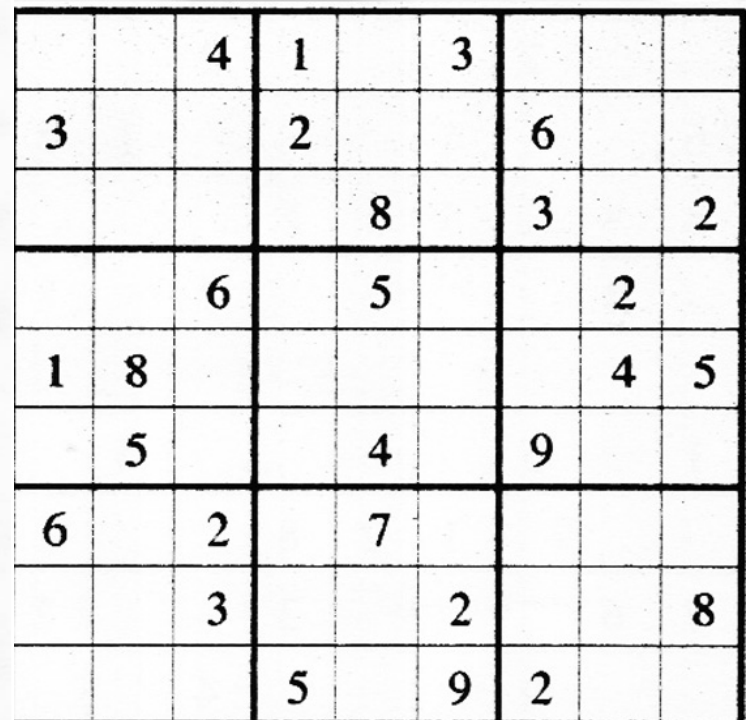
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# Sudoku



SOLUTION

L	9	7	6	E	S	I	T	8
8	6	7	2	1	9	E	L	5
E	S	1	8	L	7	2	6	9
9	E	6	1	7	8	L	S	2
S	7	L	9	2	E	6	8	1
1	2	8	L	S	6	9	E	7
2	1	E	7	8	L	S	9	6
7	L	9	S	6	2	8	1	E
6	8	S	E	9	1	7	2	L

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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## Finance

# Chavez introduces blanket price controls in Venezuela

CARACAS (AFP) - President Hugo Chavez yesterday began introducing a system of blanket price controls to combat soaring inflation in what critics see as another blow to Venezuela's market economy.

Under a decree issued by Chavez in July, the price controls are being applied in stages, and are expected to take hold by early next year as Chavez runs for re-election after 13 years in power and a bout with cancer.

Venezuela has had price controls on staples since 2003, but Chavez argues that price controls on all goods are "vital" to prevent specu-

lation and rein in inflation, now the highest in Latin America at 22.7 percent.

It is "a pretty notorious step toward a centralized, planned economy," said Jorge Botti, the president of Fedecamaras, a national federation of chambers of commerce.

"Price stability is not achieved with controls, but with sound economic policies," said Botti, whose group is considering legal challenges to the law, which Chavez passed under special powers.

Beginning Tuesday, the recently created Superintendency of Prices and Costs is

in charge of reviewing costs of goods and services, and ordering reductions in prices it considers excessive.

Businesses have yet to be told what profit margins will be considered acceptable, but the agency has the power to fine or close for up to 10 years businesses that ignore its edicts.

The new law also empowers neighborhood councils set up by Chavez to supervise enforcement of price controls.

Business leaders and many economists warn that the law will set back investment and production in a country where the private sector has already been hit by expropriations as a result of Chavez's socialist project.

Venezuela imports most of the goods it consumes and shortages of staples are a common occurrence.

According to the research firm Datanalisis, shortages of price-controlled foods peaked in March 2008 at 22 percent.

Karlin Granadillo, the head of the new price control agency, insists that prices will never be set below costs.

"If business leaders use that excuse it would be politically motivated," she said. "We guarantee them that their costs will be covered and they will have a profit to sustain their businesses."

## YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer



# Merck fined \$950 mn over Vioxx marketing

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Pharmaceutical giant Merck will pay nearly \$1 billion to resolve criminal and civil charges for wrongly marketing its former hit painkiller Vioxx, the US Department of Justice said Tuesday.

Merck agreed to plead guilty to breaking the Food Drug and Cosmetic Act after it promoted Vioxx for rheumatoid arthritis when the drug had not been approved for that disease, the department statement said in a statement.


The criminal fine amounts to \$321.6 million

It also agreed to pay

\$628.4 million to settle civil charges related to the marketing of Vioxx and making false statements about its safety.

Merck began marketing the drug, known by its generic name of rofecoxib, in 1999, promoting it not just for its approved use as a painkiller but also as a way to fight arthritis.

The Justice Department said it ignored warnings to stop doing so and continued to do so until 2005, when Vioxx was pulled from the market after it was linked to a higher risk of heart attacks and stroke.



**Daily Exchange Rates**

Current as of: 11/22/2011	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100	100.2
Canada	CAD	1.69	1.71	1.73
Britain	GBP	2.72	2.77	2.83
Switzerland	CHF	195.06	195.78	196.58
Netherlands	EUR	238.88	241.07	243.49
Sweden	SEK	25.20	25.92	26.72
Denmark	DKK	31.43	32.15	32.95
Norway	NOK	29.84	30.56	31.36
Japan	JPY	229.37	231.46	233.79

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All rates for amounts up to AWG 100,000

# Oil prices zigzag on US growth, Iran sanctions

NEW YORK (AFP) - Oil prices see-sawed in volatile trade Tuesday, dampened by weaker-than-expected US growth data but boosted by news of a new IMF program that could potentially help Italy and Spain ward off crisis contagion.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for delivery in January, added \$1.09 to \$98.01 a barrel, off gains of above one dollar ahead of the US data.

Brent North Sea crude for January advanced \$1.81 to \$109.03 in London trade.

Prices started higher early on worries that the market could tighten after several Western countries announced they would step up pressure on Iran over its nuclear program.

The sanctions in part target its energy industry.

"Geopolitical risks are

giving buoyancy to oil prices," said Commerzbank analyst Carsten Fritsch.

But US prices plunged nearly two dollars after the Commerce Department sharply lowered its third quarter US growth estimate, to 2.0 percent from 2.5 percent, signaling that the economy was weaker than had been understood during the period.

Then, almost as quickly as it fell, the price shot up again in parallel with the euro after the International Monetary Fund announced a new crisis loan program that in theory could help Italy and Spain ward off contagion from eurozone turmoil.

"We seem to be a little bit in a battle between worries about the economy and the sovereign debt problem being offset by concerns about Iran for the sanctions," said Tom Bentz of BNP Paribas.



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## Justin Bieber Takes Paternity Test



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Even after lawsuit was dropped last week, Bieber's team is taking steps to prove the allegations are false.

Pop star Justin Bieber has reportedly taken a DNA test to disprove the paternity claim of a 20-year-old woman who alleged that a backstage bathroom sexual tryst following one of the 17-year-old's concerts resulted in a pregnancy.

Mariah Yeater, the 20-year-old woman who has accused Bieber of fathering her child, must now provide a DNA sample from her son to prove whether or not the 17-year-old pop star is in fact the boy's father.

While other celebrities in the same position may have simply paid a settlement to

make the story disappear, Bieber took the high road and faced the rumors head on.

Justin - who is currently dating Selena Gomez - said: "All this stuff is dealt with by my legal team. But if they want me to (take a paternity test) then I will."

Last week, it had been suggested that Yeater had dropped her paternity suit against Bieber, with her lawyer insisting it hasn't been entirely dismissed and that both camps are trying to sort the matter out of court.

Howard Weitzman, Bieber's attorney, has reportedly told Yeater's counsel that the singer was considering a countersuit.

Bieber's spokesman did not respond to a Newsday request for comment.

## Happy belated birthday to Kelly Vanessa



Happy belated birthday wishes to Kelly Vanessa, hope you had a wonderful day.

from Yanis and friends and family.



## Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Ma-lone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline

pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for

high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange



parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: [www.goldcoast-aruba.com](http://www.goldcoast-aruba.com) to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



## Visit the Mario Hernandez shop for the finest....



Cashmir shawl with suede fringe and applique



Hernandez initial bags and matching accessories

"It's all in the details," believes the owners of the Mario Hernandez shop in the Paseo Herencia Mall "The fine hand-craftsmanship and classic styling of the Mario Hernandez accessories have placed them in high demand around the world, and we are proud to have the only MH store on Aruba."

The cozy little shop can be found tucked away just across from The Cinemas ticket booth, featuring fine quality leather goods with a trendy touch, the best of the current Mario Hernandez designer collection. It also features a stylish selection of the designer's logo unisex shirts and stunning silk scarves. Our personal favorite was a cashmere shawl with MH 25th anniversary Chrysalis motif in suede appliques; the look and feel of it is simply gorgeous. Shawls and scarves perfectly combine with the buttery leather handbags and accessories for an ensemble fashion statement.

The Mario Hernandez collection encompasses luggage, handbags and wallets of every sort, with specialized func-

tions. "Our men's accessories are extremely popular; literally flying off the shelves," note the owners. In the two years since they opened their doors, they have found patrons are very impressed with the quality and style of the goods.

Just a short time ago, the design house created an extremely attractive new line featuring the art of William DeBilzan, noted American artist whose work is often seen adorning the chic homes of television characters; he has popular galleries in both Florida and California and his work is exhibited in over 28 galleries across the U.S. and Europe.

Mario Hernandez has been creating and designing products for over 30 years; his name is synonymous with manufacturing excellence and innovation in design. The store in Paseo Herencia Mall in Palm Beach is opened until 10:00 PM for convenient night-time shopping and boasts the latest collection of these timelessly styled accessories, each of them hand-crafted at the Bogotá factory.

by Rosalie Klein



## Tennis: Classy Federer routs Nadal to make last four

LONDON (AFP) - Roger Federer crushed old rival Rafael Nadal 6-3, 6-0 as the defending champion swept into the semi-finals of the ATP World Tour Finals on Tuesday.

Federer went into the match knowing victory would guarantee his place in the last four after Jo-Wilfried Tsonga defeated Mardy Fish in the earlier Group B match.

The 30-year-old hadn't beaten Nadal since they met in the final of the ATP's season finale here last year, but he produced his most emphatic ever win against the Spaniard to end a run of three successive head to head defeats.

While Federer can relax in his final group game against Fish, there is no margin for error for Nadal, who needs to beat Tsonga on Thursday to make the last four.

Nadal has often had the better of Federer, winning 17 of their matches including the last clash at this year's French Open final, but the meetings on hard courts have always been much closer affairs.

Federer, aiming for a record sixth Tour Finals crown, arrived on a run of 13 successive wins which brought him titles in Basel and Paris and he was quick to impose himself with a dominant opening service game.

The two heavyweights slugged away for the first five games until Federer suddenly produced the kind of sustained brilliance that has done for so many opponents in the past.

Federer unloaded a stunning cross-court winner to rock Nadal back on his heels and then brought up three break points with a perfectly timed smash.

The Spaniard fought gamely to stay in the point but eventually drove a backhand

wide as the capacity crowd rose to their feet to acclaim both players.

Federer had the bit between his teeth now and kept Nadal from threatening a comeback with some cleverly placed serves to close out the set.

For the first time in the seven years they have been played each other, neither player was ranked number one after Nadal lost that spot to Novak Djokovic.

The 16-time Grand Slam champion continued to take

the attack to Nadal in the second set and the Spaniard was unable to find the right response.


A blistering exchange of ground-strokes in the first game ended with Federer producing a winner from a seemingly impossible angle to secure the break.

Again Nadal had no answer as Federer blazed forehand winners at will to open up a 3-0 lead.

Federer's serve was working beautifully and Nadal never threatened a fightback.

### Aruba Int'l Beach Tennis .... continued from page 16



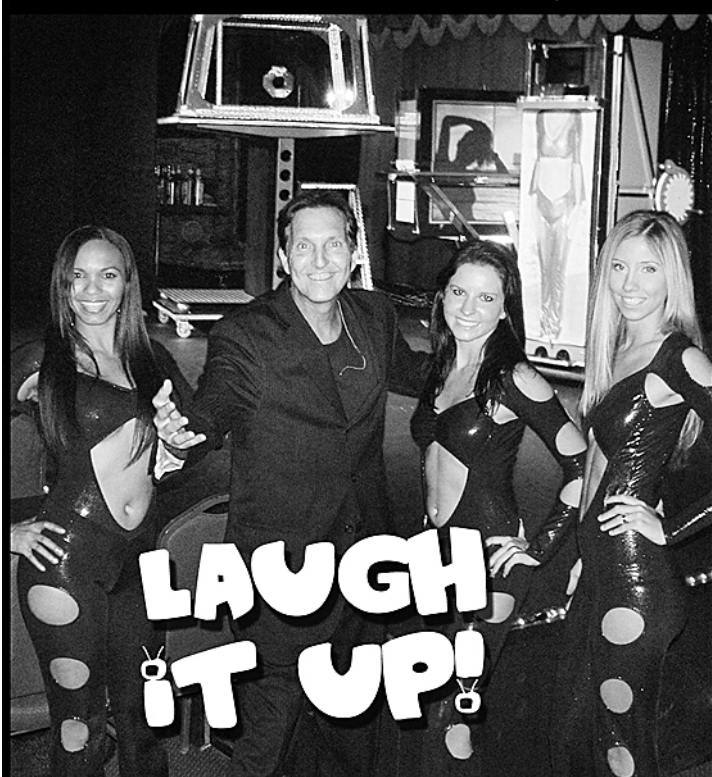


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## Murray withdraws from ATP Tour Finals

The world number three picked up the problem in practice the week before the season-ending tournament and was told to take a seven-to-10 days of due a groin injury.

However he opted to play in London, going down in straight sets to Spaniard David Ferrer in his opening match on Monday afternoon.

The Briton told journalists this afternoon that he wouldn't continue in the tournament. He lost his first match 6-4, 7-5 yesterday to Spain's world No. 5 David Ferrer at



London's O2 arena.

near my best," Murray said at a press conference. "I'm doing myself more damage with playing than not."

Murray had been among the pre-tournament favorites to win his first ATP finals title after his most successful season to date, during which he reached three Grand Slam semifinals and the Australian Open final. The Scot is one of the biggest draws of the eight-man field in London this

"I can't give anywhere week.



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## Baseball: US team owners, players agree on 5yrs deal

NEW YORK (AFP) - Major League Baseball players and club owners signed an agreement on Tuesday for a five-year collective bargaining agreement that will ensure no shutdown of the sport through the 2016 season.

Blood tests for human growth hormones, an expanded playoff system and the move of the Houston Astros from the National League Central division to the American League West in 2013 are among changes coming as a result of the deal.

The new contract comes three weeks ahead of the expi-

ration of the old deal and ensures Major League Baseball will not stumble down the same path that saw a 4 1/2-month American football lockout and the NBA's ongoing lockout.

Major League Baseball became the first US league that failed to crown a champion over a business dispute when the end of the 1994 season, including the World Series, was wiped out.

But since a settlement was reached in 1995, Major League Baseball has not shut down and the new deal will ensure 21 years without such a stalemate.

"Nobody back in the '70s, '80s and early '90s, in 1994, would ever believe that we would have 21 years of labor peace," Major League Baseball commissioner Bud Selig said.

Selig, whose contract as commissioner is set to expire at the end of 2012, has overseen three sets of negotiations without a work stoppage. This was the first since Michael Weiner replaced Don Fehr as the union's executive director.

Players and club owners must ratify the deal but that is expected to be a mere formality.

The deal creates a human growth hormone blood testing program for which the first positive test will result in a 50-game suspension, the same ban given for a positive test for performance-enhancing drugs.

Tests were approved for pre-season training and off-season but not during the April to September regular season.

"Baseball players play virtually every single day from Feb. 20 through October and that's unlike any other athlete, professional or amateur, who is subject to drug testing,"

Weiner said.

NFL club owners and players agreed to HGH tests in their new deal last July but players have held up the start of actual blood tests over concerns about the method and guidelines of the program.

US lawmakers, who have prodded NFL players to begin HGH tests and pushed baseball to toughen anti-doping measures for years, were delighted at the HGH testing provisions of the contract.

Houston's league switch, the first realignment since Milwaukee joined the National League in 1997, gives each league 15 teams and means that there will be one interleague game every day of the six-month season rather than a cluster of such games near the middle of the campaign.

Also included in the new deal is an expanded playoff format starting in 2012 or 2013 that will add one team in each league to the post-season title chase.

The two non-division winners with the best records in each league will meet in a one-game playoff with the winner advancing to join the three division champions in each league in the current playoff format.

With only 10 playoff teams among its 30 clubs, Major League Baseball remains the toughest playoff group to join in North American sport. The NFL sends 12 of 32 teams into the playoffs while 16 of 30 qualify in the NBA and National Hockey League.

Moves to held promote parity were kept in place, with a luxury tax on payrolls remaining at \$178 million for the next two seasons, pressuring big-spending teams like the Boston Red Sox, New York Yankees and Philadelphia.

## Sandusky pedophilia hearing delayed

HARRISBURG (AFP) - A preliminary hearing on 40 charges of child sex abuse against former Penn State University assistant American football coach Jerry Sandusky was delayed to December 13 on Tuesday.

The hearing was moved to Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, so a judge from outside Harrisburg could hear the case to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest with the school or Sandusky's charity, The Second Mile.

A prior judge in the case had once been a volunteer for the charity.

Sandusky has said he is innocent of sexual abuse charges, although he did

admit showering with boys at times. Prosecutors will try to show at the hearing that there is enough evidence for a trial.

A hearing for former Penn State athletic director Tim Curley and former university vice president Gary Schultz remains scheduled in Harrisburg on December 6.

They are charged with failing to properly report suspected abuse and perjury.

The Patriot-News newspaper of Harrisburg reported that Victim One, the first alleged victim of abuse by Sandusky, has been forced to leave his high school in the middle of his senior year because of bullying.

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## Breakfast

**7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

**EGG DISHES**

- \*2 eggs sunny side up with ham & cheese
- \*Scrambled with ham, cheese, onions, green pepper, tomato, mushroom
- \*Plain omelettes with ham, cheese, onion, green pepper, tomato, mushroom

All egg dishes are served with a choice of : white or whole wheat baguette or sliced toasted bread.

- \*PASTECHEI HORNA
- \*CRÊPES
- \*SWEET CRÊPES
- \*BAGEL with cream cheese, smoked salmon, boiled egg

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- \*KERRIE-KERRIE (FISH )
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- \*SHRIMPS
- \*FISH FILLET
- \*FISH CAKE
- \*CHICKEN SOUP

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## Alessandro Calbucci wins Aruba International Beach Tennis Event at Señor Frogs in The Village

Alessandro Calbucci is the proud winner of the Pro Men's final of the 2011 Aruba International Beach Tennis Event held at Señor Frogs. Where? At The Village, where a singles court filled with sand and surrounded by bright lights had been put up for the momentous occasion. A few hundred spectators witnessed the magnificent match, which culminated in a

third set tie-break. Luca Melliconi, the number two in the world of Beach Tennis had to bow to Calbucci, ranked number one, but the difference between the two outstanding players was negligent. Once again it was magic - it was Beach Tennis at its very, very best!

Afterwards the organizers of the five-day happening that is the Aruba International

Beach Tennis Event, Sjoerd de Vries and Jochem Ros, thanked sponsors Amstel Bright, Aruba Aloe, Avis Car Rental and Alno Kitchen and handed out the prizes and the prize money to the winners in the various categories: the singles, the doubles and the Nations Cup. Photos of the happy evening at Señor Frogs show that this year's event was the best ever!



more photos on page 14

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